

GRAUSTARK

#343

74HQ, 74IA, 75H, 75Q, 75AP, 75CQ, 75ET, 75GW, 75IX, one more

31 March 1976

1975H

"Fall 1907"

"LET'S ALL JUMP ITALY"

Following "Spring 1907" moves Italy retreated F Mid-Bre, F Con-Bul(e.c.).

FRANCE (Heuer): A Por-Spa; F Spa(s.c.)-Lyo; A Bur-Mar; A Gas S A Bur-Mar; A Bel-Pic; A Ruh-Hol.

GERMANY (Chafetz): A Ber-Mun; A Kie S A Ber-Mun; F Nth-Eng; F Iri S F Nth-Eng; F Mid S FRENCH A Por-Spa; A Wal holde.

ITALY (Lariton): F Bre holde; F Wes-Spa(e.c.); F Lyo S F Wes-Spa(e.c.); F Tyr-Wes; F Aeg-Con; F Bul(e.c.) S F Aeg-Con; A Smy S F Aeg-Con; A Mun-Bur; A Mar S A Mun-Bur; A Gal-Ukr; A Rum S A Gal-Ukr; A Boh-Sil; A Tri-Bud.

RUSSIA (Cathcart): A War-Gal; A Ukr-Rum; A Ser S A Ukr-Rum; A Mos-Ukr; F Bla S TURKISH F Con-Bul(e.c.); F Nwy holde.

TURKEY (Silver): F Con-Bul(e.c.); A Sil S GERMAN A Ber-Mun.

Underlined moves are not possible. The Italian F Bul(e.c.) is annihilated, and Italy retreats A Mar-Pie, A Rum-Ser. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

FRANCE: Bel, Hol, Mar, Par, Por, Spa. (6)

GERMANY: Den, Edi, Kie, Lon, Liv, Mun. (6)

ITALY: Bre, Bud, Con, Gre, Nap, Rom, Ser, Smy, Tri, Tun, Ven, Vie. (12)

RUSSIA: Moe, Nwy, Rum, St.P, Sev, Swe, War. (7)

TURKEY: Ank, Ber, Bul. (3)

Russia and Turkey may each build one new unit. Italy has the option of removing a retreated unit, and building a new one at home instead. These "Winter 1907" moves should be sent in by IMMEDIATE RETURN MAIL. The deadline for "Spring 1908" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 13 APRIL 1976.

1975AP

"Fall 1907"

KAISERS LOADED FOR BEAR

Following "Spring 1907" moves, Russia retreated F Nth-Bel.

GERMANY (Michal): F Lon-Yor; F Nth-Bel; F Hol S F Nth-Bel; A Bur-Mun; A Ruh & A Kie S A Bur-Mun.

ITALY (Eisen): F Liv-Cly; F Iri-Eng; A Pie-Tyr; A Ven S F Adr-Tri; F Adr-Tri; F Lon S RUSSIAN F Aeg-Gre; F Nap-Apu; F Tyr-Wes.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Murray): A Tri-Alb; A Tyr-Tri; A Ser S A Tyr-Tri; A Gre holde; A Rum-Sev; A Con-Ank; A Gal-Ukr; F Smy-Con.

RUSSIA (Cathcart): F Aeg-Gre; A War-Ukr; A Sil-War; F Bel-Hol; A Ber-Pru; A Mun-Ber; F Den-Bal; A Swe-Den; F Nwy-Ska; A Edi-Nwy; F Cly-Edi; F Nrg C A Edi-Nwy.

Underlined moves are not possible. Russia retreats F Bel-Pic, and Austria-Hungary retreats A Gre-Bul. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

GERMANY: Bel, Bre, Hol, Kie, Lon, Mun, Par.

(7) ITALY: Liv, Mar, Nap, Por, Rom, Spa, Tun, Ven. (8)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Ank, Bud, Bul, Con, Rum, Ser, Sev, Smy, Tri, Vie. (10)

RUSSIA: Ber, Den, Edi, Gre, Moe, Nwy, St.P, Swe, War. (9)

Austria-Hungary may build two new units, and Russia must remove three. Germany has acquired a new supply center but may not build since no home supply center is free. These "Winter 1907" moves should be sent in by IMMEDIATE RETURN MAIL. (Russia and Austria-Hungary have the option of removing a dislodged unit, and adjusting their build or removal totals accordingly.) The deadline for "Spring 1908" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 3 APRIL 1976.

1975GW

"Spring 1904"

GENERAL DEADLOCK IN COMMAND

Following "Fall 1903" moves, England built F Edi and Austria-Hungary built A Tri. The "Fall 1903" German move "A Sil-Boh" was incorrectly underlined as failing.

ENGLAND (Spiegel): F Edi-Nrg; F Lon-Eng; F Bre S F Lon-Eng; F Nwy S GERMAN F Sws; A Pic S GERMAN A Par-Bur; A Liv-Edi.

GERMANY (Sergeant): A Ruh-Mun; A Par-Bur; A Tyr-Pie; A Boh-Vis; A Sil S RUSSIAN A Ukr-Gal; A Gas-Spa; F Sws S ENGLISH F Nwy.

ITALY (Douglas Dalman): F Lyo-Spa(s.c.); F Mid & A Mar S F Lyo-Spa(s.c.); A Ven & F Asg held; F Tyr-Wes.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Trtek): A Ser-Bul; F Gre S A Ser-Bul; A Vis-Gal; A Bud S A Vis-Gal; A Tri-Vis.

RUSSIA (Ilves): A Fin-St.P; A St.P-Mos; A Ukr-Gal; F Bla S F Rum; F Rum S TURKISH A Bul.

TURKEY (Girsdansky): No moves received. A Bul, A Smy, F Con & F Ank hold.

Underlined moves are not possible. The deadline for "Fall 1904" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 3 APRIL 1976. Ronald Kelly, whose address appears on p. 15, is asked to send in stand-by moves for Turkey.

EREST: Charles III, King of England, Scotland, Norway, Belgium and France, Lord of Ireland, and Emperor of India, spoke to a cheering multitude of well wishers from his family's ancient fief, Normandy. "It is good to be back upon French soil, and I hasten to add that I, as your new government, will not hold the ill-advised actions taken by your last ruler against you. Just remember that I am of the opinion that there is no such thing as 'loyal' opposition."

When asked about the losses that his men had taken in the brief war, the dashing monarch admitted that in some cases they were high. "But you must remember," he said cracking a grin, "that although losses were high among the English army, there is no more French army." With that closing remark the young king left to go about the business of consolidating his newly won kingdom.

ANAKHIT, SKANDALUTZ (18 December 1903, URRP): As Skandals and foreigners gathered for this tiny nation's ancient and solemn Winter Solstice festival, the good will of the season was threatened by a diplomatic dispute among Europe's major powers. It began when the English Ambassador, Lord Bulsillefont, toasted his nation's complete victory over France, "which now disappears from the map of Europe". The Austro-Hungarian Ambassador, Count Wenzeslaus Chotek-Trtsk-Caltsk, ventured the opinion that there might still be some French forces holding out in Portugal since the Anglo-Italian invasion forces had not reached that country. However, he was taken aside by the Portuguese Ambassador, Dr. Joao Fernando Vinhodoperto, who informed him that "Portugal has not been occupied by any power since the war began, and we had hoped that no one would call attention to this fact". Unfortunately, this conversation was noted by a girl who happened to be lying between them at the time, and it is believed that she has informed the Italian Ambassador, Count Petronio Arbitri.

It is unlikely that there will be any immediate repercussions from this disclosure. However, after the festival is over and the new Year-King crowned, the year 1904 may well see repercussions throughout Europe of this disclosure.

((Earlier press releases begin on p. 6.))

*

Sorry about that: The date on p. 1 of this issue should be "13 March" rather than "31 March".

1974IA

3

"Spring 1907"

MER FROIDE, ESPERANCE CHAUDE

In GRAUSTARK #342, Venice was incorrectly listed as a French rather than an Italian supply center. Therefore, France and Italy had one build each. After the Italian retreat F Ion-Tun, France built F Bre, Italy built A Ven, and England removed F Ska.

ENGLAND (Heuer): F Bar-St.P(n.c.).

FRANCE (Parks): F Tyr S ITALIAN F Tun-Ion; F Mid-Nat; F Cly-Nrg; F Edi S F Cly-Nrg; F Nth-Den; F Eng-Nth; F Bre-Eng; A Kie S F Nth-Den; A Mun-Sil; A Ber & A Pru S A Mun-Sil; A Boh-Gal; A Vie S ITALIAN A Bud.

ITALY (McKeon): F Tun-Ion; F Adr & F Nap S F Tun-Ion; A Tri-Ser; A Bud S A Tri-Ser; A Ven-Tri.

RUSSIA (Kieener): A War-Mos; A Sil-War; A Liv S A Sil-War; F Nwy-St.P(n.c.); F Nrg-Nwy; F Den-Nth.

TURKEY (Malay): F Ion S F Alb; F Alb & F Aeg S F Ion; F Bla-Con; A Rum-Bud; A Ser & A Gal S A Rum-Bud; A Gre S F Alb.

Underlined moves are not possible. The Russian F Nrg is annihilated. Turkey must retreat F Ion-Apu or -Eas, and Russia must retreat F Den-Hel, -Ska, -Swe, or -Bal. I already have the Turkish retreat, and the Russian retreat should be sent in by IMMEDIATE RETURN AIR MAIL. When it arrives it will be sent out to all other players, as will the Turkish retreat. The deadline for "Fall 1907" moves, which may be made conditional on the directions of these retreats, is NOON, SATURDAY 3 APRIL 1976.

One player has suggested a draw, and another has suggested a general concession to France. I am therefore calling for a vote on these proposals, to be sent in with the next moves by all players including the ones proposing these suggestions. If one of these proposals does not receive unanimous support (with abstentions counting as negative votes) the game will go on.

A press release appears on p. 16.

1975Q

"Fall 1906"

MER CHAUDE, ESPERANCE FROIDE

In the "Spring 1906" moves, the Austro-Hungarian "A Ser" was erroneously reported as "A Sev". Germany retreated A Ber-Mun and Turkey retreated F Con-Ank.

ENGLAND (Laves): A St.P-Mos; A War S A St.P-Mos; A Kie-Mun; A Ber S A Kie-Mun; A Bur-Par; F Bar, F Nth & F Hel hold; F Nrg-Nat; F Nwy-Nrg; F Bal S A Ber; F Eng-Bre.

FRANCE (Johnson): A Pie-Nap((sic)); A Por-Bre; F Mid C A Por-Bre; A Tue S AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN A Tyr-Ven; F Rom S F Nap; F Nap S F Rom.

GERMANY (Gillespie): A Mun S AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN A Tyr.

ITALY (Westergaard): A Ven-Rom; F Tyr S A Ven-Rom; A Apu-Nap; F Ion S A Apu-Nap; F Gre holds.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Robinson): A Bud-Rum; A Ser S A Bud-Rum; F Bul(s.c.) S A Con; A Con S F Bul(s.c.); A Vie-Tyr; A Tyr-Ven; F Tri S A Tyr-Ven.

RUSSIA (Penn): F Bla S TURKISH F Ank-Con.

TURKEY (Heuer): F Ank-Con; A Smy S F Ank-Con.

Underlined moves are not possible. The Italian F Rom & F Nap, and the Austro-Hungarian A Con, are annihilated. The German A Mun is dislodged, and will be annihilated in "Winter 1906" since no German supply centers are left. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Bel, Ber, Den, Edi, Hol, Kie, Liv, ITALY: Gre, Nap, Rom. (3)

Lon, Mos, Mun, Nwy, Par, St.P, Swe, War. AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Bul, Rum, Ssr, Sev, Tri, Ven, Vie. (8)

FRANCE: Bre, Mar, Por, Spa, Tun. (5)

TURKEY: Ank, Con, Smy. (3)

England may build 3 new units, Austria-Hungary may build 2, and France and Turkey may build 1 each. Italy must remove 2 units, and the remaining German and Russian units are also removed. The deadline for these "Winter 1906" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 3 APRIL 1976.

PARIS (in Rapid Transit): 15 September 1906, AFP): Ouch, Ouch, and Ouch again!!

You were right, Germany - the Limey is a backstabber!

19750Q

"Winter 1905"

BIG BLUE MACHINE TOOLS UP

ENGLAND (Ripper): Builds F Edi, A Lon, A Liv. GERMANY (Wienczek): Removes A Ukr.

FRANCE (Robinson): Removes A Par.

ITALY (Kramer): Builds F Rom.

The deadline for "Spring 1906" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 3 APRIL 1976.

BERLIN: Steve Haas (wherever you are) do you still think alliances are silly?

1975IX

"Spring 1902"

SUBLIME PORTE REMAINS CLOSED

The following "Winter 1901" builds were made:

ENGLAND (Chafetz): F Liv.

ITALY (Kramer): F Nap.

FRANCE (Jacobs): A Par.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Whitmore): A Vie.

GERMANY (Penn): F Ber, A Mun.

RUSSIA (Eisen): A War.

TURKEY (Fischetti): F Ank.

ENGLAND: F Liv-Wal; F Lon-Nth; A Edi-Yor; F Nwy-St.P(n.c.).

FRANCE: F Wal-Eng; A Par-Bur; A Pic S A Par-Bur; A Por-Spa.

GERMANY: F Den-Swe; F Ber-Bal; A Hol-Bel; A Mun-Bur; A Ruh S A Mun-Bur.

ITALY: F Gre S AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN A Ser-Bul; F Nap-Tyr; A Ven & A Rom hold.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: A Vis holds; A Tri-Ser; A Ser-Bul; F lon-Aeg.

RUSSIA: A War-Pru; A Ukr S F Rum; F Rum S AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN A Ser-Bul; A Arm-Sev;
F Bot-St.P(s.c.).

TURKEY: No moves received. F Bla, F Ank & A Con hold; A Bul dislodged and annihilated.

Underlined moves are not possible. The deadline for "Fall 1902" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 3 APRIL 1976. Raymond Heuer (102-42 Jamaica Ave., Richmond Hill, N. Y. 11418; 441-2757) is asked to send in stand-by moves for Turkey.

1975ET

"Winter 1904"

ENGLAND (Penn): Builds A Edi, A Lon.

ITALY (Lerman): Removes A Bre.

GERMANY (Squires): No removals received.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Bittsl): Builds A Vie, A Bud.

Gamesmaster removes F Bal, A Bur.

RUSSIA (Birsan): Builds A St.P.

The deadline for "Spring 1905" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 3 APRIL 1976. Ronald Kelly (see p. 15 for his address) should send in stand-by moves for Germany.

A MORAL VICTORY

by John Boardman

O commentators, columnists,
Here are the new election lists!
Complete returns are here to see
From Flormasconsin's primary.

Behold the People judge the fates
Of Democratic candidates,
And hear each candidate decree
He's won a moral victory.

The late returns have placed in front
That statesman, Governor McGrunt.
His manager speaks joyous words.
Percentage? Twenty and two thirds.

"McGrunt's in every sense a cripple,"
Responds ex-Secretary Bipple.
"He just cannot get nominated.
"At nineteen, I'm the highest-rated!"

Says Senator Horatio Bumble,
"The Bipple lead is sure to crumble.
"The moral victory is mine
"Since I got seventeen point nine!"

"I can draw votes outside my region,"
Says Senator Erastus Weejin.
"This is a moral victory,
"For my per cent is nine point three!"

"I've won!" says Billy Joe Bodinger,
The well known country-western singer,

"My campaign team lambasted busin'
"So eight per cent was won by ua'ni!"

"The moral victory I claim,
"Although the ballot lacked my name,"
Says Senator O'Gurk. "That's mine -
"That 'Uncommitted', ten point nine."

A Congressman from way out west
Declares he really did the beat.
"With just ten thousand dollars spent
"I got as much as nine per cent."

"I won a moral victory!"
Says Senator Galusha Smee.
"Let none the basic facts confuse.
"I'm popular with Blacks and Jews!"

And Governor Liberta Bell
Has claimed that she is doing well.
"No other female candidate
"Has got so high as four point eight."

"I'm confident," says Justice Pew
"Although my voters were so few.
"My birthplace was a house of logs,
"And also, folks love underdogs!"

Now Flormasconsin's vote is tallied.
The People to their leaders rallied.
Let voting registrars rejoice -
Almost one tenth declared their choice!

PRODUCTS OF AN IMAGINATION OF A DIPLOMACY PLAYER

by John Brennick

It strikes me that every single postal Diplomacy game has certain likenesses of a "meeting" between seven people. The "attendees" of the meeting are continually discussing, arguing, and being generally mean to one another. And every once in a while an unlucky person has to "leave" due to "unfortunate circumstances", or he may leave before that "unfortunate circumstance" takes place for the reason that he is disgusted with the proceedings. This is

Or, the seven people could be armed with swords and knives and thrown into a pit. The animalian players hack, slash, and otherwise gnaw at each other till they bleed to death. The quickest and neatest way is to perform the infamous "stab in the back". The victim will scream with fury and fight the backstabber to the end. The winner is the one who manages to cover his 18 inches of sword and knife blades with the blood of the other players. Then he prudishly walks out of the pit, leaving the (un)lucky survivors behind.

Also, when the Gamesmaster walks off and leaves the game to "find a new home", I can just see the seven little orphans running from 'zine to 'zine, asking to be let in. Oh boy!

O At
P Great
E Intervals
R This
A Appears
T To
I Inflame
O Optic
N Nervea

PRESS RELEASES - 1975GU

NEW YORK (CONDM): "Chicken Shit, part 1"; starring Groucho Marx as Hector J. Fleacollar, Chico Marx as Gambelli, Harpo Marx as Squeaky, Margaret Dumont as Mrs. Colgate, Maggie Choates as Jane Colgate, Tyler Brewster as Tommy Malone, Douglas Dumbrille as Colson, Siegfried Rumann as Count Zaleski, Sophia Negri as Madame Cironella, Produced by "Pete" Laval, Screenplay by Al Lebrun, Directed by Marvin Bimbo.

In his office, dentist Hector Fleacollar was using his drill to mix himself a drink. His receptionist questioned such use of the device.

"Nonesense," Fleacollar answered. "It's great, even puts the little hole in the ice cube. You're just jealous because your vibrator's on the fritz."

Suddenly, Gambelli stuck his head in the doorway.

"Eh, doc, there's a woman outside wants an abortion."

"An abortion?"

"Yeah, she don't 'ink th' kid's hers."

"Well, send her in."

"But you're a dentist!" objected the receptionist.

"So, I've pulled baby teeth before, haven't I?...."

....Meanwhile, in the huge mansion of Mrs. Colgate, the dowager's daughter Jane was talking with her boyfriend Tommy...

"But, Jane, I want to get married now."

"So do I, Tommy, but Mother needs more assurance that you're not marrying me just for my money."

"But you know I'm not! I fell for you the first time I saw you, asking for change for a hundred dollar bill on the bus. Gosh, what can we do?"

Outside the window, it was apparent that Squeaky the gardener was having problems. As he crawled along planting seeds, a bird was following him quietly, gobbling up the tasty gems one by one. Having finished the row, Squeaky turned around to find the seeds gone. He eyed the lone bird, which burped, confirming his suspicions. Taking a shovel, he tried and failed to smash the feathered bandit. Taking to wing, the fowl landed on top of the gardener's hat. Seeing his chance, Squeaky drew back and swung. The bird, which was female, flew away, leaving a freshly laid egg. The shovel hit its mark, braining Squeaky and leaving him covered with mayo.

LOS ANGELES (CONDM): Legal trouble continued to mount for Welsh willy Ned Dipgoon as a second paternity case was dumped in his lap. Romanian gypsy Olga Fallopsa charged that half her brood of thirty-eight children was sired by Dipgoon during a prolonged liaison in Glendale. The Fallopsa family was discovered living in the basement of the downtown Fireside Auditorium, dittoing off literature for the Right to Wrong Committee, an organization working for the campaign of Presidential perspirant George Papoon.

"Hors d'oeuvres in the Court!" screamed Fallopsa relative Hilario Spacepipe, as he rotated the Jovian Judicial Bubble wildly.

"Come out, kid," yelled the chief through the megaphone.

"Never! You're not taking me back to mimeo prison! Look, Ma, I made it! Top of the Gestetner!" screamed the kid, igniting a container of fluid.

"Look," said Kenji, "It's Space Prince!"

"Halt, Nogatu," smiled the Prince. "Your weapons cannot harm me."

"I don't like this courtroom. It's in black and white," cried Panfloss.

"And wet all over," giggled Nick Dangerous as he urinated on the court reporter.

The judge then recessed the hearing, allowing everyone to attend the Power Hour in the Hully-Gully Room.

WOGASTISBURGER-NEUSTADT (URRP): Judge Wohlbestecht of the Grand Ducal Court of Chancery and Casuistry today announced his verdict in the Marty Anaconda paternity suit. "On the basis of the scientific evidence provided by Dr. Quatermass," he said, "I find that the father of Fräulein Gwladys Nirzwasser's child is Major Denis Bloodclot."

"Oooh, goody!" cried Dipgoon's attorney, Advocate Blaufläschl.

"I further find that Neddle Dipgoon is the father of Advocate Blaufläschl' ("You rotten swine!") but suspend his sentence on the grounds that no man should have to admit such a thing. I order Major Bloodclot to pay token damages of one crown to Fräulein Nirz-

1
wasser, and to pay her 18 crowns a month towards the support of her child until the lad stops walking so silly."

"But Your Honor," protested Fräulein Nirzwasser's attorney, Heinrich Krun von Krun-Krun, " -mphrk - that is to say - the crown opened this morning at 3,649 to the dollar - and that's the Hong Kong dollar, too!"

"You tell him, bud-dee!" screeched an unidentified woman sitting next to him.

"Under the emergency 1931 decree of Grand Duke Gorboduc XVI," the judge replied, "the crown is pegged at 4.20 to the U. S. dollar. The court cannot legally take cognizance of subsequent currency manipulations. Case dismissed!"

THE DIPLOMATIC POUCH

MARK ZIMMERMANN (16 January): Although John didn't seem to think much of 1974GO, as Austria I enjoyed it tremendously and am happy to have survived to the end ((which was reported in #341)). (At several stages along the way, I almost gave up hope.) The game was marred from the start by irrational play on the part of Brad Smith as Russia, who destroyed his position to make a kamikaze attack on Scandinavia, and then dropped out. The second bad feature was the choice of E. P. Verheiden to take over that abandoned Russian spot. (Sorry, Eric, I didn't mean it to sound that way.) Eric lives about 100 feet away from me, and while that wouldn't normally make him hesitate more than a nano-second before deciding to stab me, the position he inherited for his \$5 was so lousy that he only wanted to get out of the game and into a better one. ((This he managed, as I since gave him a few other stand-by slots.)) This resulted in a tremendously unfair alliance of Austria-Russia against Turkey (Wm. Drakert) - Bill, I apologize.

Otherwise, the game went relatively normally; the moves tell most of the story, so I won't comment farther. I would like to thank the other players for all their kind letters - this game involved more correspondence than any other one I've been in. And thanks, John, for G-Ming it.

TOM KISSNER (11 February): In reading this latest GRAUSTARK I was surprised not to see any comment on our 'glorious' millionaire-communist P. M. Trudeau's visit to Cuba. What do you make of a man who has definitely profited under a democratic system 'making up' to Castro like that? When he retires I'm expecting Trudeau to retire to Havana. I find Trudeau's behavior a little embarrassing and I thought I'd mention it in passing.

((Don't leap to conclusions. Trudeau may have been acting as a courier between Washington and Havana, with benefits to be seen later. Besides, the United States of America is not anti-Communist or pro-Communist in itself. The United States of America is out to guard and extend its Empire. If this can be done by cooperating with a Communist here, and opposing a Communist there, it will be done. Currently, our imperial interests demand good relations with China and Yugoslavia, and bad relations with Russia and Cuba. 'Anti-Communism' is not the Empire's reason for existence, and the events of the last three decades should persuade anyone that the political abstraction of 'Democracy' has little to do with America's imperial role in the world.))

FERKIN DOYLE (23 January): First I would like to thank John for the service he provided for us ((in 1974GO)). Next I wish to thank all the players for an enjoyable game. Now to a brief view, English that is, of the game.

My opening game centered around Russia's aggression and John Brennick ((Germany)) being a new player. I tried to form a English-Franco-German pact to move east but was unable to keep the latter two from fighting. This was disturbing since I knew that once Russia was subdued I would be forced to attack one or the other.

My preference was to go after Allan ((Amer, France)) in conjunction with a deal with Bob Lipton ((Italy)) but my forces would be telegraphing my intentions just to get into position. So, unfortunately, political and personal regard took second place to military and economic (MORE supply centers) needs. Is this beginning to sound like one of John Boardman's editorials? John ((Brennick)) fought on like a demon but the pressure on him made it to no avail. John, England salutes you.

Once John was out of the way it was time for the BIG BLUE'S push east. Then France blundered. Your mistake was your timing, Allan, you should have attacked me in the Spring of 1908. You allowed me to be in a position to move back towards home, one more move would have really caught me off balance. Mark was intelligent enough to see the folly of attacking me and giving France the game which Bill also agreed on.

WHAT YOU'VE BEEN MISSING

If you don't subscribe to GRAUSTARK's sister publication EMPIRE, which deals with the postal play of board games other than Diplomacy, you've been missing a number of interesting articles about war-games and war-gaming, and other features as well. Recent issues of EMPIRE have included the following games and articles:

#27 (29 November): David Schwartz writes a new scenario for SPI's tactical game of ancient warfare Spartan. This scenario is for the Battle of Emmaus (1 Maccabees gives details) which set off the Jewish revolt of 166 BCE. There is also a complete report on an over-the-board game of Avalon-Hill's Origins of World War II.

#28 (13 December): Bill Drakert compares SPI's World War II with Avalon-Hill's Third Reich, and Tom Koulouvis raises several questions about the postal play of the former game, which are discussed by the editor. The continuing "Intercepted Mail" series features a letter from George Wallace to Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn. (Other letters in this series are one from an Arab sheikh to Ralph Nader, one from a policeman who solves a murder by astrology, and one from Mayor Beame about creating an East Village tourist attraction called 'Hippieland'.)

#29 (27 December): Al Nofi reports on the Sacred Winter Solstice Feast in the Kingdom of Skandalutz, and the editor reports the annual award of the Ignobel Prizes in the neighboring Grand Duchy of Wogastisburg-Schlampenbüttel. (Naturally, two Lebanese factional leaders shared the War Prize.) The opening moves are played in Spartan's Asculum scenario, the largest yet tried postally and the first involving elephants. On the Russian front in the first postal World War II game, General Winter rips open the German line.

#30 (10 January): The second draft of the postal World War II rules are published, and a game begins to test them. The British win a narrow victory in Frigate's Madras scenario, and a real slugfest develops in a Camperdown game.

#31 (24 January): The first of a series of articles on SPI's new fantasy war-game Sorcerer appears. In the Casilinum scenario from SPI's Legion, the Franks complete their encirclement of the Romans and then begin to discover that the Kataphraktoi are the best troops of the entire pre-gunpowder era. And there's also verse: Michael Hunt's folksong "Giovanni Battista Montini".

#32 (7 February): The second article on Sorcerer tells how to play it postally, and a game begins to try them out. Also, an article describes the career of the German dreadnought Goeben, and postal play begins of an EMPIRE-designed scenario of postal Dreadnought which features the duel between the Coeben and the Yekaterina. A regular feature, the Game Exchange, lists for free the games and gaming 'zines that readers want to buy or sell.

#33 (21 February): The British get battered in the Frigate scenario Lissa, but seem to be doing all right in Cape Finisterre. A third Sorcerer article gives hints on playing the solitaire version, and an article exposes to the public the names and covers of all espionage agents from the Four And A Half Kingdoms who are operating in Greater New York.

EMPIRE is published on alternate Saturdays, and subscriptions are 10 issues for \$2. All back issues except #1 are available, and are 10 for \$1. Postal games of SPI's Frigate, Dreadnought, Chariot, Spartan, Legion, Viking, Yeoman, and Sorcerer are presently available in EMPIRE at rates from \$5 up; see a recent issue for details.

GRAUSTARK, while we're on the topic, deals with the postal play of Games Research Inc.'s board game Diplomacy, and is published on every third Saturday. Game entries are now open, and are \$10 per player; send in a list of your country preferences with your entry fee. For non-players the subscription and back issue rates are the same as for EMPIRE. The following back issues are in stock: 200, 202, 206, 249, 250, 253, 258, 271, 273, 275, 276, 280, 285, 286, and 291-342. Issues 296, 300, and 315 are particularly large ones with book and game reviews, and are 50¢ each. Foreign subscribers may remit in US, Canadian, or British currency (£1 = \$2) or in money orders payable in US funds. Outside the US, Canada, and Mexico, subscriptions are 8 issues for \$2.

*

Players in postal Diplomacy games are asked to put their names, the 'Boardman number' of the game, and the name of their country on each set of moves submitted. If you are playing in several GRAUSTARK games, use a different piece of paper for each one. Be sure that you mail early! there is no way a letter posted in California on Thursday evening is going to arrive here on Saturday. You phone in moves at your own risk of finding anyone at home.

OIL, HOW THE MIGHTY ARE FALLEN, SNICKER SNICKER

F. Scott Fitzgerald: "The rich are different from us."

Ernest Hemingway: "Yes, they have more money."

- F. Scott Fitzgerald, Note-Books

There are some days in which it seems that all the stories in the newspaper have a common theme. Such a day was 10 February 1976. On that memorable day, the following news stories all appeared in the same edition of the New York Post - which, granted, is not a newspaper to extenuate the errors of the wealthy and influential unless they happen to be named Dorothy Schiff.

1. The headline story told how Patricia Hearst regaled the courtroom for three hours with the tale of how her patrician body was outraged and her noble mind warped by the members of the Symbionese Liberation Army. This story, of course, clashed violently with the tape she sent to the media during her 19-month absence with the SLA, and also with a deposition that she made after her arrest in hopes of lowering her bail. These apparent contradictions, however, all disappear when the purpose of this trial is understood. The verdict is already determined - this is as much settled as is the date of the next summer solstice. Either Patty Hearst is going to be found "Not Guilty" or she will be found "Guilty" with a sentence that will not be practically different from acquittal - six months of probation, maybe, or "Sentenced to time served", or a short stay in a posh sanitarium, all in the key of "Hasn't this poor girl suffered enough?" This is what will happen, and everything that she or her lawyer or the judge says at the trial is aimed at making it seem plausible.

2. The other front page story tells how Peter Busch, 20-year-old son of beer magnate August A. Busch Jr., shot and killed a friend at the Busch mansion in Missouri. "The weapon discharged while they were examining it, police quoted young Busch as saying...no charges have been filed." If it were two poor blacks in a Harlem apartment, of course, someone would do time for manslaughter one at the very least, but the Busch mansion keeps its secrets.

Nor should the private business of the Busch and Hearst families be solved in any other way. There is one law in this country for the rich and another for the poor. Some may applaud this practice, and some may deplore it, as we may applaud or deplore a rain-storm according to how it affects our own interests, but none can deny it. And no one should oppose it, either. Anyone who tries to change the fact that Busch and Hearst are different from Smith and Jones would have to overturn an entire social structure. And we know what happens to people who try to overturn social structures in this country. First they are made laughingstocks by the media. If this doesn't work, their organizations are infiltrated by government agents, and either made ineffective or persuaded to get violent, and then locked up. If this doesn't work either, the National Guard is called out. "The rich are different from us", you better believe it.

3. The Reverend Billy James Hargis turns out to have engaged in some highly irreverent activities. It all started in 1974, after he'd married two students at his American Christian College. On their honeymoon, they confessed to each other that Hargis had had both of them. Three other male students also Told All.

Hargis apparently talked his boyfriends into bed by a characteristic appeal to scriptura - in this case to 2 Samuel 1:26, in which David laments for Jonathan: "Very dear to me you were, your love to me more wonderful than the love of a woman." (Hargis, with a wife and four children, had an experimental basis for such comparisons.) Of course, he was on solid ground with this interpretation. 1 Samuel 20:41 relates the last parting of David and Jonathan with these words: "They kissed each other and both shed many tears." The Jerusalem Bible notes: "Lit., 'wept copiously'. conj. Text uncertain." The King James Bible is more explicit: "And they kissed each other, and wept with each other, until David Exceeded." Those last two words are in Hebrew "David higdil", which means "David was enlarged". Yeah.

However, Hargis, who is identified with conservative political causes, intends to continue his ministry. Such works include his book Is the School House the Proper Place to Teach Raw Sex. It sold 250,000 copies.

4. William Cahn, who served 12 years as District Attorney of Nassau County, went on trial on eight counts of faking his expense accounts. After this trial is over, there'll be others in perjury, mail fraud, and tax evasion.

5. It has finally been revealed that the late Whittaker Chambers was a homosexual. If you kept your ears open during Alger Hiss's perjury trial in 1949, you would have learned then that Hiss and Chambers, the principal prosecution witness, had once been lovers. (An added dimension was provided by a rumor that Chambers was then seeing Hiss's 13-year-old son.) It is not certain how these revelations will affect Chambers' admirers on the editorial staff of National Review.

6. It is often said that we should elect very rich people to public office, because no one could bribe them. However, Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands, husband of the world's richest monarch, seems to have been the high Dutch official who took a bribe of \$1,100,000 from Lockheed so that the Dutch Air Force would use the Starfighter. The report claims that if a commission of inquiry verifies these charges, Queen Juliana will 'have to' abdicate. Left unanswered is the question of why the United States of America will permit a subject ally of the Netherlands' pliability to get rid of a pro-American royal couple in favor of an unknown quantity. Prince Bernhard and Queen Juliana are where they are because the United States of America wants them and can use them where they are. That's all there is to it.

7. Several members of Congress have confirmed that, when President Nixon was trying to talk them out of voting impeachment against him, he casually mentioned that "I can go in my office and pick up the telephone and in 25 minutes, millions of people will be dead." This is, of course, perfectly true. The members of Congress would have found out a few things about major league power politics if President Nixon's health had permitted him to continue in office, and they had been so foolish as to persist in their 'impeachment' campaign. But the danger remains that they might try it again, against a healthier President.

8. Richard Burton got Elizabeth Taylor to re-marry him by promising that he would give up alcohol. But he was smashed out of his gourd at 8 AM on their second wedding day.

9. Senator Warren Anderson, majority leader of the New York Senate, solemnly decried the Great Marijuana Menace by, among other things, declaring that the two ounces it would be legal to possess under a proposed law could be used to roll no fewer than 200 joints.

*

Oh - buried at the bottom of Jack Anderson's column was a story on how Senator Edward Kennedy had saved a woman's life when elevator doors closed on her neck. But that, I guess, isn't as newsworthy.

Just in case some new breaks come on any of these stories, it should be noted that these two pages were placed on stencil on Wednesday 11 February 1976.

ONE MONTH LATER

The above news stories, from the perspective of 11 March 1976, show little change. The Hearst trial still trudges on, and will be followed by two more covering Her Ladyship's alleged activities in Los Angeles and Sacramento. William Cahn's jury split 11-1 against him and the case will be re-tried. The Burtons are separated again, no hum. There has been utterly no follow-up whatever on the Nixon and Hargis stories. The House of Orange is still solidly affixed to the Dutch throne. Whittaker Chambers is still enshrined in a niche in the chapels of American conservatism. Warren Anderson has abandoned the marijuana issue and gone back to his life's great work - the destruction of New York City.

Oddly enough, a week ago a manslaughter indictment was brought in against Peter Busch. Such things happen when prosecutors are afflicted with desire for higher office, or "Dewey's Syndrome" as it is known professionally. Such prosecutors think that there is a rising tide of public revulsion against wealth, and that they can score points by catering to it. They then try to solicit campaign contributions from the relatives, friends, and business associates of the people they're trying to put in jail, and find to their surprise that none of them are interested. This is followed by a sudden vanishment from public life.

CONTESTS OLD AND NEW

Ever since #339, each recent issue of GRAUSTARK has carried a contest whose winner gets a free entry into a forthcoming postal Diplomacy game. The contest in #339 was concerned with historical trivia, and had a deadline of 14 February 1976. Out of a mailing list of approximately 160, exactly five responded: Ray Heuer, Andrew Ilves, John Malay; (I think - the letter was only signed "John"), Dick Trtek, and Kevin Vincent. Except for #7, each question was answered correctly by at least one person; the winner was John Malay, who got 8. However, he asks not to be considered for the prize, as it goes to Ray Heuer, who got 7.

The correct answers are given below, as quotes from those who got them. The quote is from the first of the players whose initials are given after each answer as having got the question right.

1. "Presumably the Monroe Doctrine would have been enforced by the British Navy. The substance of the doctrine was originally proposed privately by the British, but Washington promulgated it as an entirely American idea, so as to appear to be independent of London's influence." - DT The ports of the independent Latin American states would have been open to British merchant shipping, as they had not been under Spanish rule.

2. "The Washington's calendar would have read either Friday, February 11, 1731, or Friday, February 11, 1731/2. That February 11 was the O. S. date is common knowledge .. the Julian calendar then in use in Britain and her dominions began in March, rather than January as does the Gregorian calendar." - DT, RH, JM. "Lady Day", 25 March, was New Year's Day in England, but not Scotland, until the 1752 calendar reform.

3. "Jonas N. Phillips; appointed acting mayor in 1857 (see Jewish Encyclopedia)" was the first Mayor of New York of Jewish ancestry - JM. Several people knew that Fiorello LaGuardia was one-fourth Jewish.

4. "Well, let's see, you said European royal family, so that excludes Bobby Kennedy Charles Joseph Bonapart, Secretary of the Navy in 1905, Attorney General 1906-1907... grandson of Jerome Bonaparte, and thus grand-nephew of Nappy." - RN, AI, JM, DT

5. "The Althing, Iceland's parliament, has, according to my encyclopedia, been meeting 'almost continually since its establishment about 930 AD'" - RH, JM, DT

6. "On 22 November 1963, Richard Nixon boarded an American Airlines jetliner in Dallas, Texas, and flew to New York City" - DT, RH, JM, KV

7. The Israeli city of Shechem is one of the oldest inhabited places even in that ancient country. Under the Roman occupation it was renamed "Scythia Neapolis", the latter word meaning "New City". Under Arab rule this name became "Nablus".

8. "Celestine V...was pope in 1294 but was persuaded to abandon the position as too worldly by the monk Benedetto, who proceeded to replace him as Boniface VIII, a rotten pope. For abandoning his responsibility, Celestine is placed in the 'vestibule' of Hell by Dante...see Canto iii....Celestine's renunciation of the secular city was deemed grounds for sainthood by later RC authority and he was canonized." - JM, RH, AI

9. "Raymond Massey played Abraham Lincoln on film...a recreation of a stage role he had. His brother Vincent was Governor-General of their native Canada." - DT, RH, AI, JM, KV

10. In 1702, at the coronation of Queen Anne, "the only living man to have rightfully sat on the English throne, Lord Protector Richard Cromwell, then 76". - RH, JM, KV

*

The contests published in GRAUSTARKs ##340, 341, & 342 have WEDNESDAY 31 MARCH 1976 as their deadlines. The contest for this issue, and for #344 and #345, has as its deadline SATURDAY 15 MAY 1976. This contest lists several fictional heads of state, and asks readers to identify the work of fiction in which the character appears, and its author.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Belisarius, Emperor of Rome | 6. Miguel Menzana, President of San Lorenzo |
| 2. David Emerson, President of the USA | 7. President Randolph of the USA |
| 3. Dewey Haik, President of the USA | 8. Howie Ray Spearman, President of the CSA |
| 4. Pope Juvenember LXIX | 9. Pope Urban X |
| 5. Secretary-General Karakhan, USSR | 10. Clement Vallandigham, President of the USA |

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

It has been rumored for some time, and now it has come to pass. Games Research Inc. of Boston, which has published Diplomacy ever since it bought the copyright from designer Allan B. Calhamer in 1961, has sold the game to Avalon-Hill of Baltimore. This was confirmed in a letter sent to postal Diplomacy Gamesters on 22 February 1976, John R. Moot, GRI's President.

Between the lines it is possible to read considerable financial distress at GRI. Diplomacy has always been their biggest money-maker; What's That on MY Head? is a rather lame game applying logic to a modern version of the old 'head-painting' puzzles, and Convention is only good for sale every fourth year. (See the review in GRAUSTARK #257, on the last occasion of this quadrennial foolishness.) If GRI had to sell Diplomacy, the firm may not be long for this world.

Avalon-Hill, the giant of the war-gaming field, is apparently bent on acquiring the better games of many small firms. A-H recently bought Wooden Ships & Iron Men from Battleline, a firm which has only one other game listed in the Games Rating Charts in the latest Strategy & Tactics. It is a tactical game on naval warfare from the age of sail, and is quite popular with war-gamers though in my opinion it is more complicated than SPI's comparable game Frigate, which is played postally in GRAUSTARK's sister publication EMPIRE.

*

Diplomacy rating services are in a quandry about how to rate a new game that has just begun. According to Dag Walkerlein, publisher of Everything I Want to Do to Postal Diplomacy and Don't Try Asking About It, the Beardman Number of this new game is 1976. The players are:

ENGLAND: J. Paul Getty
FRANCE: David Rockefeller
GERMANY: Prince Bernhard
ITALY: Stewart Mott

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Stavros Niarchos
RUSSIA: Howard Hughes
TURKEY: Sir Charles Clere
Gamesmaster: Prince Fu'ad

The problem arises because Walkerlein lists this as a "local" game and thus not to be included in the rating system. His criterion is that a game is local if the players can negotiate among themselves by telephone rather than by mail. "These men," said Walkerlein in his nearly quarterly or at least trimesterly 'zine, "can afford to negotiate by telephone with the same ease that seven residents of New York City can. Therefore, like the all-New York City games, this one has to be counted as 'local'."

*

John Beshara recently sent a clipping from Action, the newsletter of the Action Committee on Arab-American Relations. (Action has just resumed publication after a mysterious fire in its printing plant. ACAAR is the personal hobby of Dr. M. T. Mehdi, who specializes in making the Arab case in the Middle East as preposterous as possible.)

This clipping claimed that, on 3 February 1976, anyone dialing the number of the New York office of the Palestine Liberation Organization was told that the number had been changed. This recorded announcement gave a new number. The new number turned out to belong to the Israeli consulate!

I have no doubt that this item was printed, and sent on to me, in a tone of high moral indignation. Passed around during a collating session, it instead received a reaction of general laughter.

There is probably no sinister Zionist plot here. My own guess is that some telephone company installer, seeing the name 'Palestine', dredged up a memory of the geography of the Middle East from a long-gone Sunday school class. 'Umma - Palestine,' he mused 'ain't that the place they call 'Israel' nowadays?'

*

There is a minor error in the quiz answers on p. 11. Raymond Massey's famous role as Abraham Lincoln was solely a film role, and he never appeared in the legitimate theater in it. So, in this context 'stage' means 'sound stage'.

*

By now you are probably wondering that this is an unusually large issue of GRAUSTARK. With this weight of paper, any issue over 10 pages exceeds the one-ounce limit for first class mail. However, there were a number of things that I wanted to get into print with at once, including the quiz results, letters, and some accumulated pre-releases. So...

This issue is going out to active players by first class mail, in printed envelopes originally designed for the 10¢ rate. Since the first class rate for 2 ounces is now 24¢, an additional 14¢ postage is added. Of this, 13¢ is the new state flag commemorative. Ray Heuer told me that he was planning to use these stamps on the next issue of Carn Dum, making each stamp the stamp showing the addressee's state flag.

Except for New York, which is impossible to set up this way, I'm doing the same thing with the copies of this issue which go out to active players. Upon checking over the stamps I'd need, I made a rather odd discovery. Next to 16 New Yorkers, the best represented state is of all places Virginia, with 5. (They live in Reeton, McLean, Arlington, Alexandria, and Charlottesville. That CIA crowd must be taking a busman's holiday with Diplomacy.) Next after Virginia are New Jersey and Indiana (!) with 3 each.

Active players will get as a rider with this issue the Gemignani Awards ballot, which was discussed in the last issue.

*

This will be the last issue of GRAUSTARK which will be printed on this rather inadequate white paper. Several months ago I got an order of this, and found (as readers will ruefully recall) that print on it can be made legible only by the intolerably slow process of slipsheeting. This in turn required that as much of the issue be printed in advance as could be managed, which in turn accounts for the material on pp. 9-10 being so badly dated. The supplier of the paper has found to his chagrin that the labels on the ream wrappers did not at all correspond with the quality of the paper within, and he has instituted an inquiry.

Meanwhile, I have laid in a large supply of a much better paper, at all of 4¢ a ream less. Beginning with GRAUSTARK #344 and EMPIRE #35, this paper will be used for these publications - to, no doubt, the general relief of postal war-gamers.

*

"What You've Been Missing", on p. 8, promises a three-part article in EMPIRE on SPI's fantasy war game Sorcerer. Since that was printed, the third article in that series was put off from EMPIRE #33 to #34 by space pressure. Also in #34 is a review of Avram Davidson's The Enquiries of Doctor Eszterhazy, and the first moves in two postal games of Sorcerer.

*

John Malay has confirmed that he is indeed the winner of the contest whose results appear on p. 11. The contests announced in GRAUSTARKs ##340, 341, & 342 all have the same deadline: Wednesday 31 March 1976.

*

Much literature, from Shakespearean plays down to the romantic novel which gave this 'zine a name (and its hundreds of imitators) have dealt with a disputed succession to a throne. In the absence of the rightful king, the public mind is shown as dispirited, confused, resentful, or rebellious.

Citizens of elective states may find this a bit difficult to understand. But we too have a liking for stability and continuity in public affairs - and we have our own notions of 'legitimacy'. There is a certain process which legitimizes a ruler in the public mind, and if it did not take place, everyone is uneasy. This is true whether the process is called 'hereditary monarchy', 'constitutional legitimacy', or 'the mandate of heaven'.

The usually sarcastic Russell Baker recently wrote a serious article on this topic in the New York Times Magazine of 15 February 1976. The article attempts to assess the public mood from the vantage-point of Washington. Baker comes to this conclusion:

"I saw a Congress that no longer trusted Kissinger making it clear they didn't trust him. I saw a President with no mandate to govern being treated like a President with no mandate to govern.

"But the imperial Presidency remains intact. Congress has passed no significant

law to dismantle any of the powers built into the Presidency under Roosevelt, Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson and Nixon. Press and television still focus most of their light on the White House and ignore Congress. And, most importantly, all thought and discussion centers on the monumental question of who the next President, the genuine, elected President, will be.

"After so much devastation, one thinks, something basic should have changed, and yet very little has. Although Watergate has ruined men, the apparatus of the Super-presidency...is still there, and public expectations of the office still seem to make Americans hunger for an ideal man to fill it...Most persons I talk to this year still seem to be dreaming of the perfect President, that amalgam of Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Roosevelt who will one day appear out of the tube to save us."

And this is why I stand by my prediction of GRAUSTARK #341, that the present political process is being orchestrated to place Senator Jackson in the White House by an enormous popular landslide, and with large Democratic majorities in Congress. I also stand by my belief that Vietnam and Watergate were not detours and anomalies from the way the United States is operated, but that the present state of breast-beating is. With a President who has 'legitimacy' in the sense of Baker's words, the United States of America and its empire will get back to business as usual.

*

On p. 11 the Roman name of the Israeli town of Shechem is given as 'Scythia Neapolie'. It is actually 'Flavia Neapolie'. Since 'Flavius' was the clan name of the Emperor Vespasianus, who suppressed the Jewish revolt of 66 CE, it was presumably renamed in his honor.

*

This is a sort of follow-up to the "Mighty are Fallen" theme of the news items cited on pp. 9-10. According to the New York Post of 24 February 1976, Jesus Christ went on trial in Hartford, Connecticut, on charges of attempted robbery, carrying a weapon in a car, and assaulting a policeman. The defendant, who also uses the name "George Dotson", gave his name as Jesus Christ when he was arrested "to conceal his arrest from neighbors and friends". Now a mean ol' judge says that since Christ/Dotson used this alias for more than three days after his arrest, he must go to trial using it.

*

The United States of America seems to be re-organizing its Empire on a "straw-boss" system. That is, one power of the second or third rank is going to get US recognition and assistance in managing its region of the world in the interests of the Empire. In the Far East, for example, China is playing this role, and has since President Nixon's first visit there. This, in fact, may be the reason why the United States no longer has combat forces in Vietnam. Why fight to conquer a country when you can hire someone locally to run it for you?

Brazil is the South American straw boss. This was confirmed recently when Prime Minister Kissinger signed an agreement in Brasilia, recognizing Brazil "as a world power and the closest Latin American ally of the United States." (New York Post, 20 February 1976) Confirmation, if you need it, comes from various South American exiles and malcontents who claim that their country's police are going to Brazil to be trained in the use of torture.

Israel is, of course, the Middle Eastern straw boss. Egypt serves in the back-up role, since the region's demography requires an Arab in this role as well. Ever since President Nasser's sudden death, President Sadat has moved Egypt closer and closer to the service of US interests in the Arab world.

In northwest Africa, Morocco is our Empire's straw-boss, as the recent Saharan crisis has shown. The United States has just 'sold' 24 F-5E's to King Hassan II to help him fill this role. (New York Times, 22 February 1976) In a recent skirmish the Moroccan army smashed an Algerian attempt to horn in on the futures of the western Sahara's phosphate deposits. And, if Portugal or Spain should attempt to leave the American Empire, Morocco will serve as a convenient base to bring them back into line.

In Black Africa, Zaire is emerging up as our Empire's straw-boss. After Nigeria (which is riven with ethnic squabbles) and Ethiopia (where a military dictatorship has

a precarious grip on a famine-stricken nation), Zaire is the most populous nation of Black Africa. It borders on nine other African nations - a record for the continent - and can conveniently serve as both a military and an industrial base. If the Communists should be so foolhardy as to take full power in Angola, they can easily find themselves squeezed between Zaire and South Africa.

*

On 22-25 January 1976 the military bands of the Royal Marines and the Black Watch gave performances at Madisson Square Garden in honor of the Bicentennial. ("Their pre-vious joint public engagement in North America was fighting for King George III." - New York Times, 12 January 1976) Al Nofi comments "First Hirohito, now these guys. In 2148 will Israel invite the German Army?"

Actually, this is being a bit unfair. There are few better people against whom to run a war than the British - if, of course, your skin happens to be white. I once knew a veteran of the Kaiser's army who complained about the treatment he got from the British after they took him prisoner in 1917. When pressed for details, he said that in the British POW camp coffee has been unobtainable - so instead, he had to drink tea!

Besides, Lloyd de Mause of the Institute for Psychohistory has already explained why the American Revolution was fought. In a talk he gave at a AAAS meeting in Boston, he said that colonial mothers "were the most advanced in the world, abandoning the physical cruelty still common in Europe for a newer method of childrearing that mixed total psychological control with loving". Nowadays, of course, this sort of thing is called 'permissiveness', and is often recognized as a cause of revolutionary longings in children thus raised. "The Revolution thus became a massive 'regression-rebirth fantasy', de Mause said." (New York Post, 26 February 1976)

STOP THE PRESSES AND START THE GAME

As of Thursday 4 March, the seventh and final entry finally came in for a new postal Diplomacy game. The players are:

ENGLAND: William Drakert, 159 Chelsea Road, White Plains, N. Y. 10603; 914-592-5009

FRANCE: Steven Bowman, Apt. A-1, 3209 E. 10th St., Bloomington, Ind. 47401; 812-339-6188

GERMANY: Earl Hodin, 6011 Softwood Trail, McLean, Va. 22101

ITALY: Bob Bragdon, 6030 N. 16th St., Arlington, Va. 22205

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Benjamin S. Lavee, Apt. 206, 209 Prospect St., East Orange, N. J. 07017

RUSSIA: Ronald Kerly, #120, 225 Virginia Ave. S. E., Washington, D. C. 20061

TURKEY: Harry A. Kahn, 6396 Sunset Lane, Indianapolis, Ind. 46260

This announcement is going out to all players on Saturday 6 March 1976. The deadline for "Spring 1901" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 3 APRIL 1976. This deadline gives players four weeks to negotiate their initial alliances and moves. The "Spring 1901" move will be published in GRAUSTARK #344.

I realize that this is not a very good geographical distribution of players, but these are the entries that came in. Some players also got placed very low in their country preferences. Despite the fact that Austria-Hungary and Italy are doing very well in some games now running in GRAUSTARK, nobody gave a higher preference than 5th to either country. If we count 6 points for a first choice, 5 for a second, etc., then the country preferences came out this way: Russia 26, England 26, France 23, Germany 21, Turkey 14, Austria-Hungary 7, Italy 5.

The GRAUSTARK house rules for postal Diplomacy were published in #318, and every player should have a copy of that issue. If you send me your phone number, not only will other players be able to contact you for phone negotiations, but in case your moves don't arrive I can phone you (collect & person-to-person) and get them from you.

Until a game number is assigned to this game, just call it "the new game". I expect to get a game number from Doug Beyerlein by the time #344 is published.

The entry fee for new GRAUSTARK postal Diplomacy games is \$10. Registrants should send in the countries they wish to play, in order of preference.

NEW BLOOD - XVIII

Below are listed the names and addresses of people who have recently inquired about postal Diplomacy or other war games. This list is complete as of 7 March 1976, and updates the one published in #339. It does not include the names of present subscribers to GRAUSTARK. These names will be printed in an up-dated directory in GRAUSTARK #345 on 24 April 1976.

Jim Allan, 10511 Inwood Ave., Wheaton, Md. 20902
 Larry Bresslour, Apt. 3, 524 Cambridge St., Allston, Mass. 02134
 Marty Gilchrist, 1261 98th St., North Battleford, Saskatchewan S9A 0L8
 John Jay Hipp, P. O. Box 16025, Wichita, Kans. 67211
 Ben Z. Hornstein, 396 Wallingford Terrace, Union, N. J. 07083
 C. Curtis Mancuse, 101 Brantwood Rd., Amherst, N. Y. 14226
 James D. Matchette, Apt. 107, 2535 N. Prospect Ave., Milwaukee, Wisc. 53211
 Michael A. Parle, 11 Liss Court, Hamilton, Ontario L8V 4P9
 Hanon W. Russell, P. O. Box 30, Milford, Conn. 06460
 Jim Starr, 233 Syracuse Ave., Wenonah, N. J. 08090
 Tom Tippett, 31 Agincourt Dr., Agincourt, Ontario M1S 1M5
 Kevin Vincent, 2560 Wantagh Ave., Wantagh, N. Y. 11793

OLD SUBSCRIPTIONS

The next "Bundle Day", on which the last 3 issues of GRAUSTARK will be sent out by third-class mail to all subscribers who are not currently active players, will be 24 April. The next one after that will be 26 June. The following people's subscriptions will expire during this period:

343 (today): Ferkin Doyle, Donald Fox, Tony Kniaz
 344 (3 April): Robert Spencer
 345 (24 April): Richard Bergeman, Pete Comber, Ken Scher, Duane Warnecke
 346 (15 May): John Brennick, Greg Gallagher, Rich Glessman, Henry Kelley, Ellis Morris
 347 (5 June): Frank Brunckhorst, Thomas Mitchell, Mark Zimmermann

In addition, if any of the current games should end, some players' subscriptions will end with that issue or shortly afterwards. See the issue in which the game ends for further information. Subscriptions to GRAUSTARK are 10 issues for \$2. For new game entries see p. 15.

1974HQ

"Winter 1908"

Following "Fall 1908" moves, France retreated F Mid-Par.
 FRANCE (Lariton): Builds A Par. AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (McKeon): Removes A Bud.
 GERMANY (McCullam): Builds A Mun.
 The deadline for "Spring 1909" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 3 APRIL 1976.

1974IA - PRESS RELEASE

CONSTANTINOPLE (People's Press): The headquarters of the IIRA (International Irish Republican Army), the paramilitary group holding power in the Trans-Euxian Socialist Republic (formerly the Ottoman Empire), announced today its plan for a world-wide peace based on a coalition of "the four Christian Powers". This latter term is evidently based on the expected elimination of Protestant England in the near future, and the growing use by the TESR of mobilized southern Slavs for troops - an interpretation given credence by the repeated references to the British as "heretics" by the head of the IIRA, one Captain Suleiman O'Hara.

"The TESR has reached its natural and pre-ordained limits," he said. "We desire only a swift end to the war, so that we may proceed with the Inquisition."

When reporters expressed surprise at this latter aspect, O'Hara replied, "Nobody expects the Inquisition."